

CLAIMS

- 1 1. A key cover comprising:
2 a first sidewall defining a first sidewall plane and terminating in a first
3 edge, the first sidewall having a first aperture therethrough;
4 a second sidewall having a second aperture therethrough such that the
5 key cover is adapted to receive a key having an opening between the first
6 sidewall and the second sidewall and the opening of the key is in alignment
7 with the first aperture and the second aperture; and
8 a tactile feature on at least one of the first sidewall and the first edge.
- 1 2. The key cover of claim 1 wherein the tactile feature is a
2 geometric shape on the first sidewall.
- 1 3. The key cover of claim 2 wherein the geometric shape is
2 selected from the group consisting of: a circle, a triangle, a square, a
3 parallelogram, a star, a cross, a house icon, an animal icon, a vehicle icon, and
4 a human icon.
- 1 4. The key cover of claim 2 wherein geometric shape is raised
2 above the plane of the first sidewall.
- 1 5. The key cover of claim 2 wherein the geometric shape is
2 depressed relative to the plane of the first sidewall.

1 6. The key cover of claim 1 wherein the tactile feature is a raised
2 treatment along the first edge.

1 7. The key cover of claim 6 wherein the edge treatment is selected
2 of the group consisting of: a repeating row of three-dimensional geometric
3 shapes, a barbell, and a braid.

1 8. The key cover of claim 1 further comprising a second tactile
2 feature integral with a portion of said form selected from the group consisting
3 of: the second sidewall and the second edge.

1 9. The key cover of claim 7 wherein the tactile feature and the
2 second tactile feature are identical and in opposition.

1 10. The key cover of claim 1 wherein the first sidewall, the second
2 sidewall and the tactile feature are a molded unitary piece.

1 11. A key ring comprising:
2 a first key having a first opening therethrough, said first key
3 encompassed by a key cover according to claim 1;
4 a second key having a second opening therethrough, said second key
5 encompassed by a second key cover according to claim 1 wherein the second
6 key cover has a different tactile feature relative to said first key cover; and

7 a securement simultaneously engaging the first key opening, the first
8 key cover, the second key opening and the second key cover.

1 12. A key cover of claim 1 obtainable by a process comprising the
2 steps of:

3 casting molten metal into a mold having a void complimentary to said
4 key cover of claim 1;

5 allowing said molten metal sufficient time to solidify into a key cover
6 casting; and

7 polishing said casting.

1 13. A key cover of claim 12 wherein the molten metal is selected
2 from the group consisting of a pure or alloyed form of: aluminum, iron, brass,
3 silver, tin, and zinc.

1 14. The key cover of claim 12 produced by a process further
2 comprising the step of: having a textural surface treatment to said key cover.

1 15. The key cover of claim 14 wherein the textural treatment is
2 selected from the group consisting of: paint, resin, enamel and an inlay.

1 16. A key cover of claim 1 obtainable by a process comprising the
2 steps of:

3 injection molding thermoplastic into a mold having a void
4 complimentary to said key cover of claim 1;
5 allowing said thermoplastic sufficient time to solidify into a key cover
6 casting; and
7 polishing said casting.

1 17. A key cover of claim 16 wherein the thermoplastic is selected
2 from the group consisting of olefins; polyurethanes; polyesters; polyolefins
3 such as polyethylene; aliphatic polyamide; polycarbonate; polyacrylonitrile;
4 polycarbonate; polyvinyl chloride; and polystyrene.

1 18. The key cover of claim 16 produced by a process further
2 comprising the step of: having a textural surface treatment to said key cover.

1 19. The key cover of claim 16 wherein the textural treatment is
2 selected from the group consisting of: paint, resin, enamel and an inlay.